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WRL News

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600 Arrested at Pentagon

Several of the civilly disobedient being arrested at the Pentagon on April 28. *Photo by Dorothy Marder.*

APRIL 26-28 IN WASHINGTON: A MIXED REVIEW

First, the good news. Nonviolence and direct action and simple human courage are alive and well. On April 28th more than 1500 demonstrators marched from the Department of Energy (DOE) in Washington, D.C., to the Pentagon for the last, and most dramatic, action of a weekend of demonstrations sponsored by the Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World. After leaving the DOE, the marchers split into five routes so that they could converge simultaneously on the five sides of the Pentagon. Among the 600 arrested were Dan Ellsberg, Dave Dellinger, Grace Paley, WRL staff members Grace Hedemann, Ed Hedemann, and two Presidential candidates—Ben Spock and Dave McReynolds.

Other WRL'ers arrested included Peg Averill, the noted artist, who suffered head injuries, Jim Peck, Vera Williams, EC members Kathy Engel, Susan Pines, Robert Ellsberg, Murray Rosenblith and Lauri Lowell from *WIN;* and Vicki Rovere, Elmer Maas, and Peter Geidel of New York local WRL, and Clark Field of WRL NC. An assortment of sentences including $25 fines were given to participants after they were held up to 33 hours for arraignment. Some were given 2 to 5 days and a handful received 30 day terms for blocking the heliport.

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Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World march in heavy downpour on April 26 in Washington, D.C. *Photo by Dorothy Marder.*

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The Pentagon was not closed down, but business as usual was disrupted as all entrances were tied up throughout the day. One group was arrested at a point where they could look inside and see a large sign indicating the way to the "Offices of the Joint Chiefs of Staff". The less happy news was that the major rally on April 26th was hit by a combination of appallingly bad weather and serious internal tensions. Both the March 22nd anti-draft rally (which was hit by high winds and extreme cold) and the April 26th rally demanded great physical stamina simply for people to stay out in the open. It rained without mercy on the 26th, turning the rally site into a mud hole.

Weather alone was not enough to account for the poor turnout. At best the crowd was under 50,000—far below what had been counted on for the first major movement action of the 1980's. Some of the problems stemmed from hard working but inexperienced organizers. But there was clear indication that political problems ran deep, that some who had presented themselves as able to "unify the nuclear power and weapons issues" seemed determined, in the end, to downplay the weapons question. Serious political discussions are now going on to explore to what extent the problems of the Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World can be laid simply to inexperience, and to what extent they may be so serious that the April 26-28 Coalition may need to be dissolved. *WRL News* readers may be surprised at so somber a report—but not all the news is always good, and accurate reporting when things don't go perfectly can reassure members that good news really *is* good news. So...April 26th was something of a disappointment, partly washed out by weather, partly crippled by politics. But the 28th was a major victory, the largest arrests in the Washington, D.C., area since the Maydays actions of 1971.

Karl Bissinger and Ralph DiGia at the Washington April 26 rally. Photo by Dorothy Marder.

WRLERS ARRESTED IN NEW YORK TAX PROTEST

For the second consecutive year, members of the New York WRL local were arrested for leafletting inside the IRS about tax resistance.

On April 15 WRL national staff member Ed Hedemann and WRL local member Walter Goodman refused to leave, and were arrested for trespass while a dozen others leafletted outside.

Because of the presence of the CBS local TV camera crew and an AP photographer, the action got coverage far beyond the small number of demonstrators. There was good play on the 6 o'clock and 11 o'clock news. Also a photo of Walter being dragged out plus a long caption was placed on the AP wires, and picked up by several papers.

The Arms Race And The Hard Economic Facts

by David McReynolds

No one can blame pacifists if, in our horror at what nuclear war would mean, we have often paid little attention to the *enonomics* of the arms race. But no one can blame workers who feel they have little control over the political process and must worry about getting bread on the table—if they are primarily concerned with the economics of survival.

What has happened is that because we have paid little attention to the boring science of economics, we have let the military/corporate complex slip two myths past us. One is the myth that the Arabs caused our inflation by boosting the price of oil, and that if you want to fight inflation you have to build up a military machine strong enough to make sure the price of oil doesn't go higher. The other myth is that military spending produces jobs—and when folks are getting laid off in the auto plants, it is very easy to think a military contract is a good answer.

Myth Number One

Please watch your favorite economist when he or she writes in *Time* or *Newsweek*. I can guarantee there is one cause of inflation they will *not* mention—military spending. They may talk about the danger of government funding of social programs, or the inflationary effect of credit, or of the OPEC price increases. Yet the real fact is that military spending is *the basic* cause of inflation. (There are other causes, too, including the tendency of capitalism in its monopoly stage to maintain artificially high prices). The OPEC nations raised their price of oil *after* Nixon devalued the dollar—and the oil producing nations found the U.S. dollars bought less hard goods in Germany or Japan. In order for the oil producing nations to continue buying as much as before, they had to increase the price of oil to stay even.

(Example—and one you understand if you have been to Europe: if, in 1970, you paid $5 for a souvenir at the tax free airport in London, and if you now pay $15 for the same souvenir because the American dollar has been devalued, you will either buy fewer souvenirs or you have to take more money with you to Europe. So with the OPEC countries—when they went shopping in Germany or Japan or France for industrial and consumer goods, they found their American dollars weren't buying so much. So, like any well organized trade union, they asked for a raise. They increased the price of oil.) What it is important to remember is *the OPEC oil increase came after Nixon devalued the dollar.* Nixon devalued the dollar because the Vietnam War bankrupted this country. Kennedy and Johnson and Nixon spent an estimated two hundred *billion* dollars on the war. They paid the soldiers, they paid the factory workers who built the helicopters, they paid the steel mills for the steel used for guns and tanks. And all of that money they paid out was floating around in America trying to buy things—but there were just not enough things to buy. No one can buy a used tank, an old set of napalm bombs, an out of date missile. So you had dollars earned by military workers chasing the goods produced by the rest of us—more dollars than goods. The result was massive inflation. And inflation is a heavy tax on the unorganized labor force—which can't demand wage increases—and on the unemployed, the elderly, the poor, and those on welfare. Inflation is a deadly hidden tax that hits the weakest in our population. The rich are not much hurt by inflation—the men who run America are "indexed" against inflation, since their stocks rise in value as the inflation rate goes up. Inflation hurts the poor much more than it hurts the wealthy. The *primary* cause of inflation in our society is military spending.

If we took the annual military budget and spent it on a decent rail system we would do three things at once: (1) produce far more jobs than military spending (2) lower the cost of transportation for many millions of Americans (3) reduce the amount of oil we would need to import, thus bringing our trade into balance and lowering the inflation rate. Never forget—military spending boosts inflation and weakens the country because it *diverts* skills and raw materials away from the production of social wealth into the production of "sterile" goods that have *no* economic value.

Myth Number Two

The primary reason for unemployment is not military spending but the economic system itself—but military spending *is a contributing factor to unemployment.* Most people look at a military contract for aircraft and think of it as "new jobs"—what they are really looking at are "shifted jobs". Example: a billion dollars invested in a missile program *is not going to be invested in housing.* It is an economic rule that no dollar can be spent twice at the same time. Now let us suppose that you spend a billion dollars to build a missile—you "generate" (or hire) about 45,000 workers. *But* if you took the same billion dollars and invested it in housing construction you would "generate" (or hire) about 59,000 workers. That means the military contract cost us 14,000 jobs! A very good study of this was issued by the International Machinist Union—write us and send 50¢ for a copy of "The Impact of Military Spending on the Machinists Union."

So...when Carter strikes out at inflation notice how he hits at the wrong thing, and so far has missed the real cause of inflation: military spending. And for pacifists, anything which increases the unemployment rate *is* immoral.

David McReynolds, WRL staff member, is currently running for President as the Socialist Party candidate.

WRL's ORGANIZERS' TRAINING PROGRAM

August 12-27, 1980

Each year the War Resisters League holds a training program for organizers in the nonviolent movement. The purpose of this program is to facilitate the development of certain skills necessary for organizing as well as expose a range of political and philosophical ideas. The program lasts two weeks. It will be held in Deerfield, Massachusetts and New York City. The program costs $100, plus an additional $75 for NYC incidental expenses. If interested, write WRL for a brochure and application at 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012.

30,000 At March 22nd Anti-draft Demonstration

by Patrick Lacefield

Neither gray menacing skies, unseasonably cold weather nor winds gusting up to 60 miles per hour could dissuade the over 30,000 people who rallied at the Capitol on March 22nd to protest the Carter Administration's proposed draft registration plan. The action, the largest antiwar demonstration since Nixon's second inaugural in 1973, was organized in a scant five weeks by the March 22nd National Mobilization Against the Draft, a coalition initiated by the United States Student Association and the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee with early support from the War Resisters League in the wake of President Carter's State of the Union message and a flurry of demonstrations and teach-ins against the revival of the draft on campuses and in communities in nearly every state of the Union.

Other sponsors of the demonstration included the Committee Against Registration and the Draft (the national antidraft umbrella coalition), the Mobilization for Survival, Americans for Democratic Action, Students for A Libertarian Society and dozens of state and local antidraft coalitions across the country in addition to such groups as the National Campus YWCA and the California state chapter of the National Organization for Women. One striking contrast from the antidraft movement of a dozen years past was the significant support for March 22 by organized labor. The protest was endorsed by District Council 37 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Machinists Union, District 1199 Hospital Workers, Region 9 and District 65 of the United Auto Workers and scattered other union regions and locals representing teachers, treasury employees, government workers, steelworkers and service employees across the country. "We must not tolerate," said William Winpisinger, president of the 800,000 strong Machinists Union in a message of solidarity to the gathering, "a military registration program that ensures that policy-makers will repeat the tragic interventions and mistakes of the past and alienate yet another generation of Americans. Stop the draft and we may well stop a war."

Stopping the draft had seemed a remote hope when organizing began in February but as unrest grew and opinion on registration in the public at large and on Capitol Hill began to slowly, steadily turn around, we at last had a fighting chance. Thirty thousand people from 39 states gathered at the Ellipse and marched past the White House (where they were joined by a feminist brigade which had rallied in Lafayette Park) to a rally on the West steps of the Capitol.

With Peter Yarrow (formerly of Peter, Paul and Mary) serenading the crowd with such classics as "The Great Mandala" and "Blowing in the Wind", over twenty speakers stood before those assembled to roundly denounce draft registration, conscription, and the drift towards war. "What we are witnessing is a cynical attempt by Carter to use Afghanistan and Iran as a rationale to draft young Americans to serve an interventionist foreign policy," WRL chair Norma Becker told the crowd. "It is a rationale we reject and shall resist." David Harris, a leader in the Resistance who served time in prison, spoke of the "ghosts who march beside us today—the 50,000 Americans who died in Vietnam" while Puerto Rican veteran Tom Soto, who spent 14 months in the hospital recovering from his Vietnam wounds, led the crowd in chanting that familiar "Hell no, we won't go" refrain. Stokely Carmichael, formerly head of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and Rev. Ben Chavis of the Wilmington 10 emphasized the need for the antidraft movement to work against economic conscription and for full employment. Representatives Ted Weiss (D-NY) and Robert Kastenmeier (D-WI)—only two of the nearly two dozen members of Congress who endorsed March 22—vowed to carry on the fight in Congress.

Other speakers included Judy Goldsmith, vice-president of the National Organization for Women, Michael Harrington, David Dellinger, union leader Victor Gotbaum, Tom Palmer from Students for A Libertarian Society, Rev. William Sloane Coffin, District of Columbia councilperson Hilda Mason and student activists Jennifer McGovern and Jeannie Martinelli.

Neither were the 30,000 in Washington alone in their protest. Another 4,000 rallied in San Francisco and 2,000 in Los Angeles while other smaller rallies were held in Minneapolis, Duluth, Dayton, New Orleans, Kansas City, Houston, Dallas, San Diego, San Antonio and Eugene, Oregon. Nearly 300 people stayed over in Washington until Monday, March 24th, to lobby against Selective Service appropriations and there it was evident, despite Senate majority leader Robert Byrd's Agnew-esque declaration of "not being affected by demonstrations," that size and the spirit of the action made an impact in the hallowed halls of government.

On April 18, in a surprisingly close vote, the House of Representatives

Demonstrators at Mobilization Against the Draft rally on March 22 in Washington, D.C. *Photo by Steve Jackson.*

approved the Administration request for appropriations for draft registration. The White House, despite a lobbying effort unmatched in ferocity in recent years, eked out only a 218-188 victory despite a prediction of a 100 vote margin just before the balloting. Now the measure goes to the Senate where antidraft forces hope to kill it in the Appropriations committee and—if that proves unsuccessful—are prepared, under the leadership of Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon, to launch a filibuster to prevent the bill's passage.

Not only will a filibuster focus national attention on the issue of registration but it also buys us time to reach out and broaden the antidraft movement, bringing in women's and minority groups, labor unions, friends and neighbors from across the political spectrum. Plans are underway for a Capitol vigil during the period of the filibuster and the Committee Against Registration and the Draft (245 Second St. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002 (202) 547-4334) is urging local demonstrations, visitations, tabling and teach-ins. While there is a chance of defeating registration in the Senate, how much of a chance will depend largely on how effectively we mobilize our contacts and networks. March 22 was the first step toward halting the draft and the drift to the right in the American body politic. Our challenge is to carry on from there.

Patrick Lacefield was National Coordinator of the March 22 National Mobilization Against the Draft.

MARCH 22 ANTI-DRAFT POSTER AND BUTTON

Commemorative buttons and poster from March 22 demonstration against the draft available. Poster is 24"x16", five color, design by Kerry Tremain. Two inch diameter button with same design in red and yellow. Posters $2.50 including postage, buttons 3/$2 and 10/$6 including postage. Proceeds to pay off March 22 debt. Limited editions, so send order now to March 22 Mobilization, 853 Broadway, Room 802, New York, NY 10003.

WRL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The War Resisters League affirms that war is a crime against humanity. We therefore are determined not to support any kind of war, international or civil, and to strive nonviolently for the removal of all the causes of war.

☐ I support this statement and wish to enroll as a member of the **War Resisters League.**

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

send to
War Resisters League
339 Lafayette Street
New York, N.Y. 10012

WRL LOCALS

NATIONAL OFFICE—339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012 (212/228-0450).

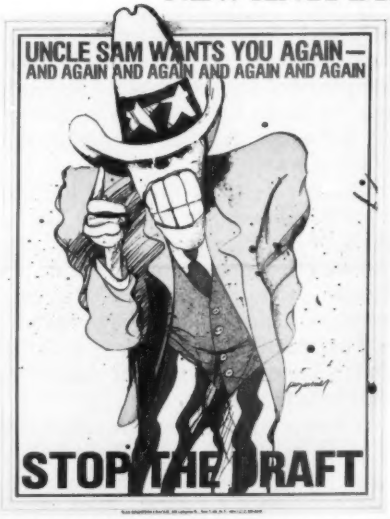
REGIONAL OFFICES

WRL/Southeast—604 West Chapel Hill Street, Durham, NC 27701 (919/682-6374).
WRL/West—1360 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 (415/626-6976).

LOCAL OFFICES

Albuquerque WRL—5021 Guadalupe Trail, Albuquerque, NM 87107 (505/344-1140).
Detroit WRL—1542 West Alexandrine, Detroit, MI 48208 (313/833-3197).
Direct Action Committee/WRL—2042 East Virginia, Evansville, IN 47711
Hawaii WRL/Catholic Action—1918 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96822 (808/949-1210).
Morgantown WRL—c/o Sharon Marcus, 912½ Monongahlea Avenue, Morgantown, WV, 26505 (no phone).
New York City WRL—339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012 (212/228-0450).
Oak Park WRL—645 North Taylor, Oak Park, IL 60302 (312/386-1092).
Philadelphia WRL/WTR—2208 South Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146 (215/545-4626).
St. Louis WRL—4556A Oakland Street, St. Louis, MO 63110 (314/533-2234).
Southern California WRL—Bob Meola, 866¼ Kensington Road, Los Angeles, CA 90026 (213/629-2998).

NEW ANTI-DRAFT POSTER



This three-color poster was designed by Peg Averill for the March 22 anti-draft demonstration in Washington, D.C. It measures 17" x 22" and is available for one dollar.

Clip and mail to WRL, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012.

Please send me posters. Enclosed is $____(1-4 is $1 each, 5-24 is 75¢, 25-49 is 60¢, 50-99 is 45¢, 100 and up is 35¢.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Terrorism: A Pacifist Contradiction

by Van Zwisohn

Many pacifists are hesitant to criticise terrorism. Not that any of us favor the pain, death and fear that terrorism instills in its victims, but because traditionally, "terrorism" is claimed as the refuge of the weak against the powerful and oppressive.

We are comfortable in criticising the traditional overkill response to terrorism; with its police apparatus, denial of civil liberties and the Nazi-like 10 for one ethic of stamping out opposition.

The pacifist's contradiction regarding terrorism is this: We identify with the oppressed and abhor the injustice and oppression that brings a people to adopt violence in response. We identify with the victims of regimes and systems that depend on violence and power to maintain themselves. Yet doesn't violence, no matter how provoked, no matter how "revolutionary," cause death and suffering? Do we not criticize the denial of humanity—and do we not believe that violence as a means fatally undermines the loftiest of ends?

Terrorism is a media-charged word. It is reserved for what "they" do to us. What "we" do to them is "military reprisal." Thus the PLO are terrorists, and the Israeli government takes military action in response. Thus the IRA are terrorists and the British keep "police presence." For a long time during the Vietnam war, the Vietnamese were "guerrillas" or terrorists, while we, of course, were the army of deliverance. In our own history, our militia hiding behind trees and firing at the Redcoats, was the height of heroism and cleverness. The British thought us savages.

Terrorism is the military engagement of unequal forces. On one hand is the "lawful" government, able to use violence openly and with a cloak of respectability. On the other, a generally clandestine force, wreaking violence in the name of liberation. Terrorism is often condemned by governments as being directed against innocent civilians—but so is all modern military action. The difference between government authorized violence and "terrorist" violence is one of available firepower—a distinction which, in its moral application, is a negligible one. People are no more liberated by plastic explosives than by bomber attacks. They are no more free being held captive by me than by you.

Another problem pacifists face, as progressives, is the fact that terrorism seems to *work*. The militant students in Iran have undoubtedly raised legitimate issues and focused the world's attention on the plight of their country and its fate at the hands of the Shah and his US supporters. The PLO have been credited with raising the issue of Palestinian rights; the IRA is celebrated the world over, and those holding diplomats in Colombia are focusing attention on the claims of the oppressed there.

But terrorism doesn't work. Had the revolutionaries in Colombia killed their diplomatic captives, the people of Colombia would surely have suffered—increased repression, greater police presence and military foreign aid. It would have undone whatever had been accomplished in the drama of taking the embassy. Does not each attack by PLO soldiers weaken the position of their friends in Israel, or each bombing by the IRA frighten the English into harsher reprisals?

Before the weirdly planned attempt to raid the Iranian embassy in order to free the hostages there, world opinion had begun to turn against the Iranians. Responsibility for the hostages' safety was shifting day by day away from the United States and the Shah and onto the militants and the Iranian government.

The United States' military attempt, "terrorist" in all but media description (though not incomprehensible as a "righteous" act) brought the responsibility back again into the realm of US-Iran history. Our government had compounded the potential for violence and the death of the captives. Before the attempt that potential was in the hands of Iran.

This is surely not to imply that the Iranian militants are *the same* as the Shah; or that kidnapping, kneecapping and surprise attack are equivalent to napalm, atomic weapons, or largescale economic and military imperialism. Nor can pacifists close their eyes to the terror of people living under dictatorial and violent regimes.

It is easy to abandon our refutation of violence when it is practiced by the oppressed—it takes us off the hook. And pacifists are rightly called bourgeois and holier-than-thou when they merely criticize the violent aspects of liberation movements. Pacifism, unlike other progressive ideologies which support a call to arms (and indeed lionize that call) requires more than criticizing violence. It calls for active support of the oppressed, for active assistance to the victims of government sponsored terror, and for active opposition to systems, governments and officials who are the causes of oppression. There must be more attention to pacifist revolutionism, more resistance to collaboration with tyrannical regimes, more rejection of oppressive violence, *before* it causes people to believe they have no alternative but to return violence with violence.

Van Zwisohn is executive secretary of the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute.

WRL EAST COAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

July 25-27, 1980

WRL will hold its east coast regional conference at the Oakwood School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., from July 25-27, 1980. Meet other WRL members and enjoy a weekend in the country. Cost $30, plus $10 registration fee for bed and board. For more information, contact the WRL National Office.

REMEMBERING MILLEN BRAND

Millen Brand, writer and longtime member of WRL, died last March. Millen was active in many peace demonstrations. He participated in the 1977 peace walk from Nagasaki to Hiroshima about which he wrote a poetic journal, *Peace March,* to be published this summer. Other writings include *The Outward Room,* and *Savage Sleep.* He also wrote the script to the film *"The Snake Pit."* He was among those who refused to testify before McCarthy's red baiting Senate Committee in the '50's.

EXECUTIVE AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The following were elected to the EC for a three year term: Bent Andresen, Susan Kent Cakars, Lynne Shatzkin Coffin, Robert Ellsberg, Linnea Capps Lacefield: for two year terms: Susan Pines; for one year term: Kathy Engel, Murray Rosenblith. The following were elected for a three year term to the NC: West—Dorie Wilsnack, Scott Abbott; Midwest—Clark Field, Tim Sperry; South—Diane Hampton; East—Ann Davidon.

Those continuing to serve on the EC are Norma Becker, Sybil Claiborne, William Douthard, Jerry Coffin, Maris Cakars, Wendy Schwartz, Allan Solomonow. Continuing to serve on the NC are Beverly Woodward, Joanne Sheehan, Bobby Slovak, Inuka Mwanguzi, Ruth Dear, Larry Gara, Vic Schumacher, Dorie Bunting, Liz Rigali, Nanci Bower, Peter Klotz-Chamberlain.

Members of the WRL National Committee at the March 7-9 meeting in New York. *Photo by Karl Bissinger.*

WRL INTERN TO WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL

Scott Abbott has been selected 1980/81 WRL intern to WRI. Scott participated in the August, 1979 WRL Organizers' Training Program. Recently, he was elected to the WRL National Committee from the western region. Scott has been an activist and organizer on the west coast for a number of years. He will replace Tom MacLean in the London office beginning mid-May.

MASS DEMO AT ROCKY FLATS

On April 19, 18,000 persons rallied at Rocky Flats (operated by Rockwell International) urging a shutdown and conversion of that outrageous facility, where triggers are affixed to 5 nuclear bombs each day. It was the third annual mass rally and the biggest. In 1978 there were 6,000 and in 1979 there were 15,000,

It was the first time that fair weather prevailed. Rep. Ronald Dellums of California denounced Carter's war budget, as did Daniel Ellsberg.

The War Resisters League Presents:

The Anti-Draft Organizing Packet containing . . .

- basic political background information on the draft, the recruitment connection, the national service trap, Afghanistan and the Cold War
- WRL Statement of Affirmation and Draft Resistance
- organizing material for a local campaign, speaking and debating against the draft, etc.
- button, poster, sticker for fun.

Send to War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012

☐ Please send me____Anti-Draft Organizing Packet(s). Enclosed is $____ (@ $3 per packet).

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

WRL NEWS

Published by the War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, N.Y. 10012, 212-228-0450.

WRL is the U.S. branch of the War Resisters' International, a pacifist organization with affiliates in 20 countries and individuals in more than 80 countries.

Staff: Karl Bissinger
Ralph DiGia
Ed Hedemann
Grace Hedemann
David McReynolds

WRL News (from 1967 on) is available on microfilm from University Microfilms International, 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

Peace Award to Grace Paley

by Joan Durant

Norma Becker and Sybil Clairborne present the 20th peace award to Grace Paley at WRL annual dinner, in New York. Photo by David McReynolds.

After WRL's Pot Luck Dinner on April 19, all of us were drawn together like a family celebrating, because we were honoring Grace Paley who received the Annual Peace Award. There were lots of hugs and kisses, always a sign that Grace is around, and therefore so is hope, our own hope for peace.

The speakers started with Norma Becker who, in praise and love, could not find words enough, because there were none, she said, to express what she felt. Another friend, Joe Chaikin said that he once thought the word "peace" was rather vague and somehow undefined in its generality until he got to know Grace, who had restored to it all of its glory. Next, Carl Goldfisher conveyed the warm affection of an entire generation of students who had studied with her.

Dave McReynolds shone with even more affection as he recounted an early episode, and antidraft demonstration in 1966 at Whitehall Street in which Grace grabbed a police officer after the non-violent demonstrators had been assaulted by police on horseback. "I hold you personally responsible for this" she said shaking the astonished policeman by the collar.

Sybil Claiborne, one of her oldest friends and a sister in action, recalled some of those actions; the time Grace sat down in front of an armed forces parade and as a result spent six days in the Woman's House of Detention; her peace mission to Hanoi in which she obtained the release of airforce prisoners; her visit to the 1974 Peace Congress, in the Soviet Union distributing leaflets in Red Square and meeting with the physicist Sakharov. Grace was jailed many times during the Vietnam war, and recently again as one of the Washington Eleven who demonstrated on the White House lawn.

In addition, Sybil told how Grace did all those ordinary things that go along with being an active pacifist; hours of stuffing envelopes, mineographing, cooking for resisters and continually vigilling. It was Grace who thought up the slogan that became the rallying cry of all women against the war in Vietnam. NOT OUR SONS.... NOT YOUR SONS....NOT THEIR SONS.

Grace was presented with a bouquet of flowers and the peace scroll made beautiful with doves and flowers painted by her friend Erika Weihs. On it was written....

> *Grace Paley is a renaissance woman. She can cook, write, teach, mother, knit, marry, garden, resist and go to jail.*
>
> *Grace Paley is a poet and peacemaker.*

And when Grace spoke in prose, she told us that what she valued most in all those years, were the people around her, and what she came to understand deeply was the connection between peace and non-violence.

And when Grace spoke in poetry, all of us understood how old and deep those connections are.

Joan Durant is a member of War Resisters League and Mobilization For Survival.

The "mess" in the kitchen at the dinner for Grace Paley. Jim Moss, Sybil Claiborne, Virginia Eggleston, Grace Paley, Karl Bissinger, Vera Williams, Karen Bercovici, Milton Rubenstein, Erika Weihs, Allan Solomonow. Photo by David McReynolds.